

16 November 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DCID 1/2 COMMITTEE

Subject: Agenda for 23 November 1981 Meeting of the Committee

The agenda for the next meeting of the DCID 1/2 Committee is attached. The discussion of the DCID 1/2 priorities process will be the only scheduled item.

Executive Secretary

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AGENDA

DCID 1/2 Committee Meeting

Monday, 23 November 1981

0945 Hours, Room. 6W02.

25X1

1. Discussion of the DCID 1/2 priorities process:

- Vertical and horizontal balance; present methods; alternatives.

- Options for reducing the size of the matrix.

25X1

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DCID 1/2 Committee Working Paper

SUBJECT: Reviewing the DCID 1/2 Priorities Process

This paper is designed to stimulate consideration and discussion of possible changes in Committee methodology and procedure by making a number of "what if" propositions for the purpose of exploring their implications. These propositions (a) should not be considered as an actual proposal for change; (b) should not necessarily be viewed as a package; and (c) can be altered, supplemented or reduced. You are asked to visualize the operational effects of implementing the propositions or variants thereof in order to estimate, basically, whether it would be worth doing.

What if:

a. relative priorities were assigned to countries (independently of topic) so that those with greater actual or potential impact on US interests and security would be given relatively higher ratings than those with lesser impact;

b. the system for doing the above took into account both substantive and temporal factors in determining impact, so that the immediacy of an intelligence need was given significant weight where appropriate; this would permit, for example, the same priority to be assigned both the Soviet Union and El Salvador under certain circumstances;

c. the assignment of priorities to topics was done on an intra-country basis only and signified the relative ranking of intelligence needs on the country addressed;

d. the current priority level definitions were changed to simply indicate relative gradations of need with respect to the country being addressed; thus a topic assigned priority level 1 would be a highest priority intelligence need relative to that country; there could be more than a single level 1 for a given country.

NOTE: In combination, the above would create a dual value priority designation system. Each topical line item would reflect the priority assigned to the country as well as that assigned to the topic with respect to that country. Thus, if country priorities were indicated by letter, the designation A1 would identify a highest priority intelligence need.

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